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"(f) The Government have no information. The labour and work involved in the various offices to collect this information will be considerable and hence the information is not being collected. As regards works for which both capital and revenue accounts are kept, the attention of the hon'ble Member is however invited to the general abstract of financial results printed at the end of the Administration report of the Public Works Department (Part II—Irrigation) for 1945–46 available in the library of the Madras Legislature."

Medical aid to villages in Beltangady sub-taluk in South Kanara.

* 48 Q.—SRI D. MANJAYA HEGDE: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware that the villages situated in the Beltangady sub-taluk in South Kanara district go without any medical aid;

(b) whether it is a fact that the people of these villages are generally unhealthy and subject to fever and other epidemics now and then; and

(c) if so, what steps the Government propose to take to provide medical aid to the suffering masses of those villages?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"(a) There are at present three medical institutions in the Beltangady sub-area:—

(1) Local Fund Dispensary, Beltangady,

(2) Rural Dispensary, Punjalkatta; and

(3) Rural Ayurvedic Dispensary, Mundaje. The three institutions are situated in the Mangalore-Charmadi Road, with Beltangady in the centre, but there is no medical aid in the interior of this sub-area which is malarial.

"(b) Yes; but this is not the only area in the South Kanara district, where malaria is both endemic and epidemic. Most of the Hill tracts of Puttur, Karkal, Udipi and Coondapoor taluks are also malarial. There are also other districts in the Province that suffer from the same disadvantages.

"(c) The question of providing medical aid in the villages referred to above, as well as in other villages of the district where such amenities may be needed, will be considered in due course in connexion with the post-war schemes."

SRI D. MANJAYA HEGDE:—"May I know the number of rural dispensaries recently sanctioned for South Kanara?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"Five rural dispensaries have been sanctioned."

SRI D. MANJAYA HEGDE:—"Why cannot we have one for each taluk?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—"The proposal must come through the District Board."

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SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether some rural dispensaries, allopathic, unani or ayurvedic, have been closed altogether for want of sufficient doctors? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—"Yes, Sir."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Are there not enough doctors now waiting at the doors of the Government for employment; and if so, why is there delay in employing them? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There is no objection to employing them; the doctors are not coming forward."

SRI P. R. K. SARMA :—" May I know whether many applications from doctors to the Government are now pending, and if so, how many are so pending? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know, Sir, whether this supplementary question arises out of the answer given."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" It does arise, because the closure of rural dispensaries has come into this. All that the hon. Member wants to tell the Government is that there are enough number of doctors available and that the closure of some of these dispensaries is responsible for their unemployment."

(No reply.)

Madras Secretariat.

* 49 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of departments in the Secretariat in 1939 and now in 1947;

(*b*) the number of Secretaries, Joint Secretaries, Additional Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries, Under Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Superintendents, upper division and lower division clerks employed in each department in 1939 and now in 1947;

(*c*) the cost of the staff in the Secretariat in 1939 and now in 1947;

(*d*) whether the question of re-organization of the work of the Secretariat to effect economy and promote efficiency has ever been considered by Government;

(*e*) whether the Government have received any complaints that the present Secretariat procedure is cumbersome and is not conducive to quick disposal of papers; and

(*f*) what steps the Government propose to take to ensure avoidance of delays in the disposal of papers?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (*a*) 9 and 10, respectively.

" (*b*) A statement[a] is placed on the Table of the House.

" (*c*) Rs. 11,97,375 and Rs. 21,64,202, respectively.

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 299 infra.